4th September 1928]

Refund of doctor's fees, etc., deducted from the compensation due to workmen.

* 97 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state for the year 1927—

(a) the cases in which the employers deducted—

(i) Doctor's fees; and

(ii) other expenses such as medicine and food respectively from the compensation due to workmen; and

(b) the measures taken for having such amounts refunded to the workmen?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) The Government cannot take any action in the matter. It is for the workmen concerned to avail themselves of the provision of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"With reference to clause (a), will the Government be pleased to call for information whether there was really any deduction made for doctor's fees and other expenses, and if so, how many such cases there are."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"I will consider it."

Motor Vehicles Act

Increase of levy for 'G' permit for taxi cars.

* 98 Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that whilst before March last taxi cars had to pay only Rs. 8 for the 'G' permit, since then they have to pay in addition to the said amount Rs. 20 for every six months for brake inspection, so that in all they have now to pay Rs. 48 per year;

(b) under what rules or law the said imposition is made;

(c) what steps the Government have taken or intend to take to reduce such demands; and

(d) whether Government derive any profit out of these charges or whether they only meet the cost of the services of the inspecting agency?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The fees are levied under the Motor Vehicles Act and Rules.

(c) None.

(d) Some profit is made over and above the cost of the inspecting agency. Government do not consider that the fees are high. They are charged both for inspection by a competent person and for guaranteeing a sense of responsibility in the car owners.

Mr. K. R. Karant:—"May I ask, with reference to clause (a), whether before raising the fee from Rs 8 to Rs. 48 any objections from the public were invited?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"I do not think so, Sir."